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Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development

Written statement* submitted by the Alulbayt Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

[25 May 2015]

* This written statement is issued, unedited, in the language(s) received from the submitting non-governmental organization(s).

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Bahrain: Violations of international Human Rights agreements continues unobserved

Bahrain has signed over 7 human right international treaties

- International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination
- Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR)
- International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
- Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
- Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
- Convention on the Rights of the Child
- Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict

Alulbayt Foundation and SALAM For democracy and Human rights been following and documenting Bahrain authorizes violations that are in contravention of signed and ratified agreements, there seems to be obscure and pretense projects and organisations, and inapplicable laws organised by the authorities to hide away the extent and show false improvements. To demonstrate this fully, no meaningful recommendations from the BICI report in 2011 or if they implanted the 2012 UPR recommendations been implemented.

We have also noted that with the current political system, which is strictly built on exclusivity and control rather than democratic principles. As such, demands for freedoms and rights are perceived as dangers that would open the floodgates for the rest of the Bahraini society to obtain their rights. Further, there are protests in every decade, thus a torture and detention policy and manipulation of domestic law is seen as necessary even though it contravene international agreements.

- Bahraini authorities' anti-freedom stance existed prior to the popular uprising in 2011, and the uprising resulted in the full documentation of violations by all international human rights organisations and portrayed in the mainstream media. Even though the Bahraini authorities have continued contravening the agreements and continue violations, the international community has remained largely quiet and uninvolved. Some world powers, predominantly the UK, have provided reprieve and diplomatic protection to the Bahraini authorities, allowing human rights abusers and torturers to escape justice – making the authorities more confident to carry out further agreement-contravening violations.

Recommendations:

- For the international community, to oversees the restructuring of the political system to ensure the involvement of all citizens in the political process and the proper distribution of wealth, all based on equal citizenship rights and duties without any discrimination, whilst ensure the creation of real and accountable institutions.
- To utilize an international court to bring to justice all officials involved in abuses and torture.
- To add Bahrain on a list of countries that violate human rights, and that the world powers, like the UK, to take the issue of human rights and democracy as a basis for building and continuing relationships.
- For the United Nations to assume a protective role for the Bahraini people, by preventing countries that export weapons from dealings with the authorities in Bahrain.
- For the United Nations to activate UN laws and compel Bahrain to implement all the recommendations presented by the UN Human Rights Council.